



Top Stories

Russia withdraws from Georgia

Dmitry Medvedev, the President of Russia, announced the withdrawal of Russian forces from Georgia. In a statement made on August 12, Medvedev declared



that the reason for Russian withdrawal is the humanitarian

crisis in the region. A Kremlin spokesman confirmed the instructions to the Defense Ministry to stop the military operation.

Olympic highlights: August 12, 2008

August 12, 2008 is the fourth main day of the 2008 Olympic games, Wikinews' article lists some of the highlights. Visit the article to see the full medal table, in addition to summaries of all the major events.



Bill Cotton, former Controller of BBC One, dies at age 80

Bill Cotton, who was formerly the director of BBC One has died in hospital at the age of 80. In 1998, he won the "Academy Fellowship" BAFTA award.

Chloroform spill causes evacuation of Buffalo, New York building

On Monday morning, the Buffalo Fire Department and Police were called to a hazmat situation at

Top Stories

Canisius College on Main Street after security reported that a one gallon glass container containing chloroform broke, spilling about a pint onto the floor of the college's science building.

Wikipedia Current Events

Mark David Chapman is denied parole for a fifth time for the murder of ex-Beatle John Lennon in 1980.

•The United States Department of the Treasury imposes sanctions on five Iranian companies for assisting the development of the nuclear program of Iran.

•President of Russia Dmitry Medvedev announced that the operation of Russian forces in South Ossetia is completed. He added that 'The aggressor has been punished, having sustained considerable losses. Its armed forces have been disorganised'. Medvedev also ordered the Russian Ministry of Defence to consider awarding the peacekeepers and military personnel that have 'showed their best' during the operation.

•However, Sergei Lavrov, Russian Foreign Minister, said that signing a 'legally binding document on the non-use of force' by Georgia is a compulsory condition of starting the talks between the sides of the conflict.

•Georgian Prime Minister Lado Gurgendidze says that Russian jets are still targeting civilians.

Wikipedia Current Events

•BP shuts down two more oil and gas pipelines in Georgia.

•The Georgian security council files a lawsuit against Russia in the International Court of Justice for alleged ethnic cleansing.

•The President of Georgia Mikheil Saakashvili and the President of Russia Dmitry Medvedev agree to a six point ceasefire plan proposed by the President of France Nicolas Sarkozy.

•Floods and landslides associated with Tropical Storm Kammuri kill 28 people in southwest China and force 11,000 people from their homes.

•Michael Phelps of the United States wins his third gold medal of the 2008 Summer Olympics in the 200-meter freestyle and sets a new world record and the 200-meter butterfly in qualifications.

Olympic highlights: August 12, 2008

August 12, 2008 is the 4th main day of the 2008 Olympic games, the below article lists some of the highlights.

Men's 100m backstroke

American Aaron Peirsol set a new world record and won the gold medal in the final of the men's 100m backstroke with a time of 52.54 seconds.

Matt Grevers, who was representing the US with Peirsol, took the silver medal, while Arkady

Vyatchanin and Hayden Stoeckel tied for third place with a time of 53.18.

Men's 200m freestyle

American Michael Phelps set a new world record and won the gold medal in the final of the men's 200m freestyle with a time of 1:42.96 minutes.

Taehwan Park, who was representing South Korea, finished in second place and set a new Asian record, while Peter Vanderkaay, who was representing the US with Phelps, finished in third place with a time of 1:45.14.

Phelps beat the old world record by almost one second. The Australian reported that Phelps 'shattered' the previous world record, which was also set by him.

Women's 100m breaststroke

Australian Leisel Jones won the gold medal and set a new Olympic record in the final of the women's 100m breaststroke with a time of 1:05.17 minutes.

"It has been a long journey. It's been a long eight years," said Jones, after her victory. "And I think just a lot of relief that the training was definitely worth it."

Rebecca Soni, who was representing United States, won the silver medal, while Mirna Jukic finished in third place with a time of 1:07.34.

Men's double trap

American Walton Eller set a new Olympic record in the qualification round of the men's double trap with a score of 145.

Francesco D Aniello, who was representing Italy, finished in second place, while Jeffrey Hologuin, who represented the US

with Eller, finished in third place with a score of 140.

Men's 200m butterfly

American Michael Phelps set a new Olympic record when he finished in first place in heat six of the men's 200m butterfly with a time of 1:53.70. This record is one of several set by Phelps during the Olympic games.

Kaio Almeida, who was representing Brazil, finished in second place, while Takeshi Matsuda finished in third place with a time of 1:55.06, 1.36 seconds behind the time set by Phelps.

Women's 200m individual medley

Zimbabwean Kirsty Coventry set a new Olympic Record in semifinal of the women's 200m individual medley with a time of 2:09.53 minutes. Coventry's first fifty second were the quickest, with her first length taking only 29.17 seconds.

Stephanie Rice, who was representing Australia, finished in second place, while Katie Hoff finished in third place with a time of 2:10.90, just over one second behind the time achieved by Coventry.

Russia withdraws from Georgia

Dmitry Medvedev, the President of Russia, announced the end of Russian military operations in Georgia. In a statement made earlier today, Medvedev declared that the reason for Russia to cease operations was the humanitarian crisis in the region.

A Kremlin spokesman confirmed the instructions to the Defense Ministry to stop the military operation. The news came hours before the presidents of Ukraine, Poland and Lithuania were

scheduled to visit Tbilisi, and the president of France was to visit Moscow. The prime ministers of Latvia and Estonia are also planned to visit Tbilisi later today.

Just before the announcement there were reports of the Russian forces bombing the Georgian town of Gori. The declaration of the Kremlin puts an end to the four-day Russian offensive inside Georgia.

On August 7, following days of fire exchange with South Ossetian separatist units, Georgia launched an offensive against Tskhinvali, the capital of the region. The next day Russian forces entered Georgia and began to bomb targets in the country.

On August 10, the Russian Black Sea Fleet began a naval blockade of the Poti Georgian port and landed several thousand Russian troops in Abkhazia in western Georgia. Ukraine threatened to bar Russian warships dispatched to the Abkhazian coast from returning to their Ukrainian base of Sevastopol if they were to engage in any military action.

Today in History

1521 – After an extended siege, forces led by Spanish Conquistador Hernán Cortés captured Tlatoani Cuauhtémoc and conquered the Aztec capital of Tenochtitlan.

1704 – The combined forces of England, the Holy Roman Empire, and the United Provinces defeated France and Bavaria in the Battle of Blenheim one of the turning points of the War of the Spanish Succession.

1913 – English inventor Harry Brearley developed stainless steel in an electric furnace.

1937 – The Battle of Shanghai broke out, eventually becoming one of the largest and bloodiest

battles of the entire Second Sino-Japanese War.
 1968 – Greek politician Alexandros Panagoulis attempted to assassinate Greek leader Georgios Papadopoulos.
 August 13 is Independence Day for the Central African Republic (1960)

Quote of the Day

It is our hope, that men in proportion as they grow more enlightened, will learn to hold their theories and their creeds more loosely, and will none the less, nay, rather all the more be devoted to the supreme end of practical righteousness to which all theories and creeds must be kept subservient. ~ Felix Adler

Word of the Day

worrywart n

1. Someone who worries about everything, especially about inconsequential things.

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